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S-88/AQ

Memorandum for Chairman, Critical Collection Problems Committee

SUBJECT: (U) Intelligence Collection on Chinese Communist Military Forces

1. References:

a. DIAAQ Memorandum, S-50/AQ of 2 March 1964, to Chairman, Critical Collection Problems Committee.

b. Memorandum from Chairman, Critical Collection Problems Committee, same subject, dated 30 March 1964.

c. Quarterly Supplement to DCID No. 1/3, 2 April 1964.

2. In reference a, the Chairman, Critical Collection Problems Committee was requested to have the CCPC "consider any actions which might be taken to improve intelligence collection by collateral resources" regarding significant gaps in intelligence holdings on the Chinese Communist military forces. The reply from the Chairman, CCPC, reference b, noted that four of the six areas of activity on which Department of Defense seeks additional information seemed to be adequately covered in the IPC list of 27 September 1963 as prepared by the Interagency Clandestine Collection Priorities Committee and asked if the priority accorded these requirements in the IPC list reflected their importance to the Department of Defense.

3. The mounting concern of USIB about Chinese Communist intentions and military strengths is reflected in the most recent (3 April 1964) Quarterly Supplement to DCID No. 1/3, reference c, in which it is stated that "there is an increased urgency for intelligence regarding Chinese Communist and North Vietnamese intentions and actions concerning South Vietnam, their military strengths and weaknesses, and support of guerrilla forces in South Vietnam." This USIB priority of the requirement for information on Chinese Communist forces in conjunction with that of the IPC list provides adequate justification for a priority collection effort. However, as noted in reference a, difficulties inherent in collecting information

